

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2023, 6.30PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

PRESENT:

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • The Mayor: | • Councillor J T Jones |
| Councillor J Garvey | • Councillor A Lawton |
| • Deputy Mayor: | • Councillor A J McLoughlin |
| Councillor C Perkin | • Councillor W Rogers |
| • Councillor J Davies | • Councillor N R Yates |
| • Councillor K J Jackson | |

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Councillor J Salt
- Mr James Connolly – Biddulph Chronicle

73. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for:

- Councillor E E Baddeley (Absent)
- Councillor J P Redfern (Absent)
- Councillor S Rushton (Absent)
- Councillor C M Smith
- Councillor G Swift (Absent)

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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| a) | Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations: None |
| b) | Other Interests: None |

75. MINUTES

- | | |
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| a) | To sign the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on 21 February 2023. Agreed. |
| b) | To receive the Notes of the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on 15 February 2023. Received. |

- c) To **receive** the Notes of the Health and Wellbeing Working Group meeting held on Tuesday 7 March 2023.
It was noted that Councillor Rogers had abstained in relation to the budgetary value that was considered. Received.

76. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON EMERGING CORONATION ACTIVITIES

The Chief Officer noted that she had applied for funding from Awards for All. She had also submitted an application for £1000 from the District Council. The team were currently working with a range of community organisations to establish who was looking to put on events. It seemed that the best way to involve a larger number of people was to support a wide range of events.

There was consideration of a pin badge that could be given to smaller children in the town. It was proposed by Councillor Jones, seconded by Councillor Perkin to include the Biddulph Town Council information. Agreed; Councillor Yates was opposed to the purchase of the badges.

77. TO NOTE THAT THE BUSINESS EVENT IS PLANNED FOR 31 MARCH 2023, 8.30AM

The Chief Officer asked for support to ensure that as many businesses as possible received information about the event. There were letters, social media information and further details in the local printed press. There was discussion about who would deliver letters to each area of town.

78. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON BIDDULPH WORKS TOGETHER PROJECTS FOLLOWING THE MEETING ON 15 MARCH 2023

The Chief Officer updated members in relation to the feedback from the Group. The responses were overwhelmingly positive and attendees would like to continue to meet, to share information and experiences. Some would like to continue their activities, if funding was available.

Councillor Yates noted that this seemed to have evolved. Funding could be sought from other groups.

Councillor Davies stated that feedback seemed to suggest that social isolation was a significant issue.

Councillor Jackson felt that volunteers deserved praise for their efforts to support the community.

79. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON PROPOSED RE-OPENING OF THE PUBLIC TOILETS AT WEEKENDS

The Chief Officer believed that the Police were on top of the anti-social behaviour in the town, and she had been made aware of a volunteer who would be happy to lock the toilets at weekends. The Chief Officer queried whether Councillors felt it was appropriate to re-open the toilets at weekends.

Councillor Davies wondered whether CCTV was an option; the Chief Officer would investigate.

Councillor Garvey welcomed the suggestion and proposed that this should happen as soon as possible; seconded by Councillor Jones and agreed.

80. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKING GROUP AND TO APPROVE A BUDGET OF £10,000, TO BE ALLOCATED FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

The Chief Officer drew attention to the notes from this group, and stated that any allocation would be dependent on further consideration of individual projects.

Councillor Jones was happy with this, as long as each project was considered separately. He proposed that a budget could be allocated on this basis; seconded by Councillor Yates and agreed. Councillor Rogers abstained from the vote.

**81. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SHARED PROSPERITY
FUND AND A GRANT APPLICATION FOR EVENTS**

The Chief Officer noted that she was engaged in discussions with Staffordshire University about a feasibility project. She was also hopeful that some funding could be allocated to enhance events within the town.

CONFIDENTIAL

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, the Council is to determine which items, if any, should be taken with the public excluded.

**82. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE STAFFORDSHIRE
MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL MINING LANTERNS**

The Chief Officer noted that these were in Biddulph, in a secure location. Work was ongoing in relation to the level of funding needed for repair.

Councillor Jones requested that a quotation be received as soon as possible; seconded by Councillor Jackson and agreed.

Councillors Lawton and Garvey abstained from the vote.

The meeting closed at 8.11pm.

Signed..... Date.....